

House Resolution 1721

By: Representatives Dooley of the 38th, Ralston of the 7th, Porter of the 143rd, Morgan of the 39th, Abrams of the 84th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., on the occasion of his 32nd
2 pastoral anniversary with Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., has demonstrated his commitment to teaching
4 the Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

6 WHEREAS, a native of Macon, Georgia, Reverend Lockhart pastored at two churches in
7 Middle Georgia for five years before the Lord called him to Atlanta to lead the congregation
8 of Faith Tabernacle in Decatur; and

9 WHEREAS, he was asked to serve as pastor at Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
10 in 1977 and over the last four decades he has helped grow the church to 1,800 members with
11 two Sunday services, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a
12 spiritual leader and place for fellowship; and

13 WHEREAS, Reverend Lockhart has fostered the mission and vision of Pleasant Grove
14 Missionary Baptist Church and amazingly has licensed nearly 60 ministers to preach and
15 teach the Word of God; and

16 WHEREAS, under his divine leadership, Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church has
17 expanded its ministries program from four to 39 ministries, with plans to establish a day care,
18 life center, and chapel; and

19 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
20 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
21 humanitarian, Reverend Lockhart serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

22 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Reverend Lockhart is a source of
23 strength and direction for persons in all walks of life and from all economic strata; and

24 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
25 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
26 on behalf of persons in need.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body congratulate Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., on the wonderful
29 occasion of his 32nd pastoral anniversary with Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
30 and extend best wishes for many more years of successful fellowship and leadership.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Benjamin
33 Lockhart, Jr.